THE COUNTRY AVAILABILITY OF PALMOLEIN IN

2305. SHRI KRISHAN LAI-SHARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Palmolein is not available in the market these days;

(b) if so, reasons of its non-availability ; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to meet the need of common men ' in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The imported pahmo-lein is being supplied under the Public Distribution System through the network ef fair price shops and Cooperative Stores of the Centre and State Govemments, It is not retailed by the private traders in the market. However, in view of the easy availability of indigenous edible oils, certain State Governments are not supplying pal-molein oil.

(c) In order to supplement the supplies of edible oils in the country, the Government has imported 42,000 MTs of palmo-lein. The same is being distributed by several States/UTs Govemments under Public Distribution System. As of now, the availability of edible oils in the country is comfortable.

WITHDRAWAL OF COAL PROJECTS

2306. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of coal projects which were ordered to be withdrawn ;

(b) what are the reasons of their failure and withdrawal of these projects ;

(c) whether it is a fact that these projects were not planned and designed by Central Mines Planning and Design Institute Ltd.,

(d) if so, whether any resonsibility has been fixed on the offices and staff for this failure and withdrawal ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) 47 coal production projects of Coal India Ltd. sanctioned during the Seventh Five Year Plan were withdrawn/not taken . up due to various reasons. In case of 20 projects, no expenditure was incurred and in the remaining cases the expenditure incurred was only marginal and plant and machinery wherever procured was transferred to other mines where it was gainfully utilised.

(b) some of the reasons for withdrawal/ not taking up these projects are mentioned below :—

(i) Problem of land acquisition and associated rehabilitation of families could not be sorted out;

(ii) The geology of the area was found to be more difficult and highly disturbed compared to what was envisaged;

(iii) Lack of infrastructurel facilities for coal evacuation ;

(iv) Environmental and safety considerations ;

(v) Non-availability of funds.

(c) Project plaiming work is generally carried out by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, Ranchi and its Regional Institutes located in different coal companies. Marginal schemes, at times, are planned by the Planning Directorate of the coal companies in consultation with the Regional Institute of CMPDL